24 March 2016

Take it easy this Easter

Stay safe this Easter long weekend: take it easy on the roads, take care around camp fires and be mindful while swimming.

Director of Nambour General Hospital’s emergency department, Dr Mike Natale said his emergency team saw many patients whose Easter long weekend or school holiday was ruined by road trauma or injury.

“We don’t really want to meet you at work this Easter, but we will certainly be here if you need us,” Dr Natale said.

The emergency department has one of the highest ambulance presentation rates in Queensland and is becoming busier each year.

“Our highly-skilled team of doctors and nurses is committed to providing clinical excellence to all of our patients,” Dr Natale said.

On any average day we have 316 patients (in total) who attend our emergency departments at Nambour, Caloundra and Gympie hospitals. In comparison, at Easter last year the total number of patient attendances on Good Friday was 373; 382 on Easter Saturday; 399 on Easter Sunday; and 413 on Easter Monday.

Dr Natale said the figures spoke for themselves and urged people to take care over the Easter long weekend.

“Easter is a time to enjoy the company of family and friends. We hope that people drink responsibly, appoint a designated driver and take care of each other,” he said.

“Emergency departments are busy places and patients are attended to and treated according to how urgent their condition is. For example, patients with trauma injuries from a road accident or those with severe illnesses will take priority over more minor complaints,” he said.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service operates three emergency departments (at Nambour General Hospital, Caloundra Health Service and Gympie Hospital), open 24 hours, seven days a week.
Easter 2015: 3 April 2015 - 6 April 2015

Please remember:

- In an emergency call Triple Zero (000) and ask for an ambulance.
- If it’s not an emergency, call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84). Qualified staff are available 24 hours a day.
- G.P.s can treat many conditions you might otherwise go to an emergency department for, such as removing stitches, managing sprains and strains, and some bites and stings.

ENDS

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